



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 11/7/2000

GAIN Report #BB0001

Barbados

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

Reduction of Duty Rates for 29 Food Products 2000

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Report Highlights:

In response to pressure from the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association, the Government of Barbados announced the reduction of bound rates of duty from up to 210% down to 15%-40% for twenty-nine products used by the hotel industry. This should provide increased export opportunities for US food products to the food service sector in Barbados.

Includes PSD changes: No

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Unscheduled Report

Miami[C11], BB

In response to pressure from the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association, the Government of Barbados (GOB) announced the reduction of bound rates of duty from up to 210% down to 15%-40% for twenty-nine products used by the hotel industry. Eleven products will have reduced rates of duty for a period of twelve months beginning November 1, 2000, and eighteen products will have reduced rates of duty for an indefinite period of time. The list of products, some of them grouped together, with their old and new duty rates are as follows:

Product	Import Allowance (kg) as of 11/00	Bound Rates of Duty beginning 4/1/00 %	Bound Rates of Duty beginning 11/1/00 %
Reduced Duties 11/00 to 10/01			
Pork Spare Ribs	44,200	207	40
Port Tenderloin	4,200	207	40
Baby Back Ribs	16,200	207	40
Cornish Hens	4,000	207	40
Raw Turkey Breast	6,000	207	40
Cauliflower	10,000	123	40
Cabbage and Lettuce	400,000	123	40
Sweet pepper	134,000	180	40
Cantaloupe	18,300	166	40
Honeydew melon	17,700	166	40
Reduced Duties as of 11/00 for an indefinite period			
Fruit Puree and Paste	Not provided	161	15
Dry Cured Salami Dry Cured Ham	Not provided	210	20
Cooked Brisket	Not provided	210	20
Sausages: pastrami, pepperoni, bologna, franks, knockwurst	17,000	207	20
Strawberry Jam, Jelly, 1/2 oz	2,800	161	20
1oz	2,242		
Marmalade	1,400	161	20
Orange Juice, 5 1/2oz - 6 1/2oz	11,120	161	40
8oz	2,966		

Grapefruit Juice, 5 1/2oz - 6 1/2oz 8oz	5,557 1,483	143	40
Pineapple Juice, 5 1/2oz to 6 1/2oz 8oz	5,557 1,483	161	20
Apple Juice, 5 1/2oz - 6 1/2oz 8oz	5,557 1,483	161	20
Frozen Sweet Corn on the Cob	Not provided	180	40

In 1999 the US exported \$22.7 million of consumer food products to Barbados, the fourth largest market in the Caribbean.

On April 1, 2000, the GOB met a key WTO obligation by eliminating restrictive import licensing and imposing in their place WTO-approved bound duty rates of 40 percent to 243 percent for most consumer food products. These rates proved to be so restrictive to trade that importers found it cost prohibitive to continue importing many food products. Their demands were met with the November 1st reduction in tariffs. With little local agricultural production outside of poultry and pork, Barbados must import most of its food needs. Prior to April 1st, licenses were granted to import specified amounts of products to offset shortfalls in local production and to meet the special requirements of the tourism industry. Since tourism is the largest contributing industry to the country's GDP, the importers were able to obtain relief for most of the products they import for the tourism industry.

CBATO will continue to monitor the situation with the US Embassy and will work with the local trade and US exporters to identify opportunities to educate consumers on the high quality and safety of US food. We will encourage the food importers/distributors to work as a group to effectively lobby their government for an import policy that allows freer trade.